Supply of Hired vehicles to Department of Telecommunications in Andhra Pradesh

3868. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints from MPs have been received regarding lapses while accepting tenders for supply of hired vehicles to the Department of Telecommunications at Vijayawada in AndhraPradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken to enquire into the lapses?

THE MINISTEROF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Complaints are regarding non-compliance of tender conditions by the bidders.

(c) An investigation has been ordered.

Payment of Telephone Bills at Lower Koti Sub-Post Office in H.P.

† 3869. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is **a** fact that telephone consumers of Sidrohi, Chhupari, Bagi, Lower Koti, Parsa, Chinnai and Shaddu villages in Shimla District, Himachal Pradesh have to go to Roharu Post Office to pay the telephone bills, which is 7-8 kilometre away from these villages;

(b) whether Government will make any arrangement for the payment of telephone bills of the consumers of aforesaid villages at sub-post office, Lower Koti in order to avoid the inconvenience to the people; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The extant policy of BSNL already provides for collection of payments of telephone bills through Head/Sub-Post Offices. The Chief General Manager, Himachal Telecom Circle, has accordingly been asked to examine the possibility of introducing the facility at Lower Koti in consultation with the Department of Posts.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.